

NEWSLETTER

Published by the City of Takoma Park

1990

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Letters To the Editor

The Newsletter invites all citizens to write letters to the editor. Include an address and telephone number on the letter in case The Newsletter has to contact you. All letters to be considered for publication must be received by the deadline date for the next issue and be intended only for publication in The Newsletter.

Sammie Abbott Memorial

Dear Editor:

While we are creating an atmosphere for a new year echoing peaceful hopes, this year we have special remembrances of the life of Sammie Abbott who gave our community many unique and difficult turnings. Sammie changed Takoma Park. Through his insights, actions, and politics, the conscience of a quiet city expanded into the active conscience of the greater community.

We, the board of the Friends of the Peace Park/Sculpture Garden [a garden proposed for the Municipal Building grounds], would like to ask the City of Takoma Park to consider dedicating this garden to Sammie Abbott. We suggest that the garden could be named The Sammie Abbott Memorial Peace Park and Sculpture Garden. Other possible ways of including Sammie within the heart of the City would be to dedicate a specific area of the overall garden to him, or to create a drinking fountain in his memory, or to dedicate a double row of trees to line the lane between the Municipal Building and the library to him. These suggestions are offered as an alternative to the traditionally dedicated tree memorial.

—M.C. Carolyn

More on those Rubber Bands

Dear Editor:

On November 5, I wrote to the Postmaster to complain about the careless littering of rubber bands by the postal

carriers. I sent you a copy of my letter with the hope that you would print it, thereby raising the level of awareness of our fellow citizens in Takoma Park. Instead, you presented my letter as a letter to the editor and rewrote it to imply that I was blaming *The Newsletter* carriers for rubber band littering. It is ridiculous to consider *Newsletter* carriers as the cause of this problem, since heavy duty rubber bands are hardly needed to deliver a flimsy 12-page flyer. Consequently, you have made me look like a fool for suggesting that *Newsletter* carriers are the cause of this problem. Further, your editorial footnote advised me to contact the Takoma Park post office, which is who I wrote to in the first place.

Your handling of my letter makes me wonder how many other items in *The Newsletter* have been misrepresented. If you want to retain credibility with the citizens of our community, you will need to pursue a greater accuracy in your reporting.

—John B. Carson

Ed. Note: A flimsy 12-page flyer! A Flimsy 12-Page Flyer! A FLIMSY 12-PAGE FLYER!

The Newsletter was saddened to learn over Christmas that Anthony Barile, former City public works director, had died of cancer in October. Mr. Barile had served the City from 1970 to 1980. His survivors include his wife, Ethel, and his daughter, Patricia, both still residing in Takoma Park.

crossing Carroll Avenue to get on her school bus. The incredible amount of support that was shown by our neighbors and by others in this community was very reassuring during this crisis.

We would like to thank all of our neighbors—particularly the community immediately surrounding Carroll and Sherman Avenues—the two police officers, the driver of Bus #805, the ambulance drivers, the Takoma Park Fire Department, the nurses, doctors, and technicians at the Washington Adventist Hospital, and the teachers and students at Takoma Park Elementary School. Everyone reached out and gave our family a feeling of safety and security during a time of unbelievable stress.

We would like to inform everyone who was involved that our daughter, miraculously, is fine and returned to school within three days after the accident. It's amazing how a visit, a card, or a phone call can lessen that horrible sense of trauma and powerlessness.

Thank you so much for all of your warmth, concern, and support. It was deeply felt and greatly appreciated.

—Chris Whitaker, Dana, Alexis & McKenzie Robinson



Alexis Robinson

A Letter of Thanks

On December 10, seven-year old Alexis Robinson was hit by a car as she crossed Carroll Avenue to catch her school bus. The following letter from her family expresses their thanks for the community's support.

Dear Editor:

Often when a tragedy occurs, people come together to help each other. Our family experienced an outpouring of this town's tremendous caring when our seven-year-old daughter was struck by a car while

Letter From the Editor

Dear Readers:

By the time most items make it into *The Newsletter*, they're really more of a remembrance than news. It's the unavoidable nature of a monthly publication. When Sammie Abbott died last month—albeit, he did so after our deadline, which some might say was typical of the man who never made anything easy—his death wasn't just news. It was a chance for this town to begin remembering a person who gave his heart to us. *The Newsletter* is embarrassed to have to thank him in memorium for doing so.

For nearly six years, Sammie Abbott was our mayor, as well the editor who turned this paper from a mimeograph sheet to a public forum tabloid. During his terms, those of us who lived here took a kind of sassy pride in Takoma Park. Telling people our address back then was almost an act of defiance because Sammie Abbott made Takoma Park into a town that simply didn't know its place in the scheme of things. It was a time when living in Takoma Park was a dare and not a real estate investment.

Sam Abbott was the last mayor we had who thought that being mayor was a full time job. As mayor, he was fierce, often rude, judgmental, self-righteous, but everpresent and totally involved. He ran this town like a man with a conscience and not much time. He was compelled to act, more often than not, impatiently, as if he knew exactly how much time he didn't have.

As it does, his time did run out... just as it did for us who never found the time to thank him while he was alive.

Carolyn James
Carolyn James

OPINION VOICED by Julie Matthews

Begging to Differ

In the City of Takoma Park, I am a true anomaly; I am the only private citizen who attended all City Council meetings where the Council discussed and planned the mayoral selection process. This surprised me because lots of people lobby city hall about lots of issues: NFZ, Santa Marta, rent control, recycling, you name it.

But I am a witness—not a single citizen came forward. The people of Takoma Park were deathly silent concerning the appointment of an interim mayor.

That is...until Nina Gilden Seavey and Barbara Beelar's "Takoma Park or Tammany Park?" opinion piece in the last issue. In their editorial, the writers complained that the City Council "failed miserably" in understanding the intent of the revised charter. If the writers believe this is true, why didn't they attend the December 3 council worksession? Or the December 10 council meeting? Why didn't the writers present their views to the City Council before the mayor was selected?

It seems to me that the writers are mostly angry because the council-members made endorsements prior to the filing date. In my mind, there's nothing unethical about this; it was just politically unwise. The councilmembers would have been more prudent to hold their political endorsement cards closer to their chests.

Seavey and Beelar further protested that, "If Mr. Sharp chooses to run for re-election a year from now, he will have done so without any of the political accountability to the whole city which such an honor demands." Yeah, but who wouldn't? Are the writers suggesting that the Charter Review Committee, on which they served, should have instituted special elections for mayoral and council vacancies?

Finally, Seavey and Beelar make a rather lukewarm endorsement of Edward Sharp's appointment as mayor. The council's selection of Sharp truly makes a great deal of sense to me. He was the senior member on the council, and therefore he possesses a vast knowledge of City issues and problems, as well as the council's current agenda. He also served for a year as mayor pro tempore and is, therefore, intimately aware of the mayor's responsibilities. To top it off, he has eight years of experience serving the people of Takoma Park. With this expertise, Sharp will provide quality leadership for the following year.

I am sorry that Seavey and Beelar did not attend the council meetings and worksessions; I would have liked to have heard their views. We live in a participatory democracy, and our City Council meets almost every Monday night of the year. In the words of a terrible game show, "Nina and Barbara, come on down!" —Julie Matthews is a member of the election task force.

Medicines for Santa Marta Delivered in San Salvador

by Nancy Chisholm

Takoma Park's four-woman delegation to El Salvador returned home just before Christmas, after spending 12 exhausting days in San Salvador, trying to get safe conduct passes to visit Takoma Park's companion city, Santa Marta. Their passes were denied by the military because of heightened war activity. The military had declared, at the last minute, most of the country as off-limits to foreign nationals.

Dr. Rebecca Elon, Jan Walker, Nancy Chisholm, and Joan Hall, however, were successful in meeting with Santa Marta's representatives in San Salvador and handing over to them \$6,000 in medical supplies that had been purchased with

help from the Sligo Adventist Church, Social Services of the Seventh-Day Adventists, and Interchurch Medical Assistance.

The senior health promoter from Santa Marta and one of his staff explained the operation of their medical clinic, which deals with diseases ranging from fever and diarrhea to meningitis. Malnutrition contributes to a 10 percent infant mortality rate in Santa Marta. While Elon and Walker explained the medical equipment and medicines, the Takoma Park delegation was very impressed with the Santa Martans' medical sophistication. Another official from Santa Marta explained that their community also looks to Takoma Park to provide them with



A member of Santa Marta's Directiva accepting powdered milk from Nancy Chisholm.

help for purchasing cows and crops that might give adequate nutrition for young children and mothers.

The Companion Cities Project will participate in a national campaign to

have U.S. Representatives send a letter to the El Salvadorean government protesting the military harassment of civilian settlements. Anyone wishing to support this projects can call 891-3691.

Chief Lobbies for Reintroduced Brady Bill

by Barbara Young

Police Chief Tony Fisher was interviewed live by Fox TV News and joined Jim and Sarah Brady, Rep. Edward Feighan (D-OH) and other law enforcement representatives at a Jan. 3rd news conference in the Rayburn House Office Building to reintroduce the Brady Bill in Congress. The bill requires a national, 7-day cooling-off period before purchase of a handgun, to give police time to conduct a background check of the purchaser.

Fisher said state laws are a patchwork at present and permit criminals to purchase handguns in states without waiting periods or background checks and then transport them illegally across state lines to use or sell in areas with tough laws. He noted that Maryland does have a 7-day waiting period, and that in 1989, its waiting period allowed police to catch more than 1,500 people trying to buy handguns illegally.

Citizens are invited to a town hall meeting on Wed., Feb. 5 at 7:30 in the Municipal Bldg. on the Persian Gulf Crisis.

Council Meets Berlage

An hour before the Council met for its last public meeting in 1990, they met with Montgomery County Councilmember Derek Berlage. The meeting with Berlage was the first time a county councilmember had sat down with Takoma Park's council to discuss what it is we want, need, and deserve.

Takoma Park's councilmembers told Berlage that the City is not receiving its fair share of rebates from the county for services that the City performs. They were particularly concerned about the rebate from Montgomery County for the recycling services. Berlage agreed that the City "should get reimbursed by the county. In the past, Takoma Park has done the county a big favor by taking the lead on several things like

Ellis is Rec Director

As irreplaceable as Belle Ziegler seemed to be, someone has been found to replace her as recreation director. F. Sharon Welsh-Ward Ellis began her new job on January 14, and "We're all really looking forward to working with her," said Carol Claytor of the recreation department.

Sharon Ellis not only grew up in Takoma Park, but she has already worked in Takoma Park's recreation department. In the early '60s, while earning her B.S. in parks and recreation

recycling." However, Berlage was very concerned that, with "the toughest budget season that any council has ever faced," human services to low and moderate income households in Takoma Park would be affected. He promised "to fight very hard to make sure that when we cut the county budget that we cut as little as possible in the human services area."

Berlage left the meeting, promising to follow-up on our council's concerns at the county level, and saying "I certainly intend to come back."

at the University of Maryland, she was an intern at the City's recreation department. After earning her B.S., she went to work for Montgomery County's Department of Recreation.

Since 1974, Ellis has worked with municipal park and recreation departments throughout Florida. She has worked in progressively responsible positions in Fort Lauderdale, Coral Springs, Tamarac, Casselberry, and most recently as the recreation manager in Ormond Beach. In her last job, she not only organized numerous sports teams for youth and oversaw volunteer workers and boards but helped design playground facilities for handicapped children. In 1985, she received a commendation from the then Florida governor for her work in fitness and sports.

For all of her success in Florida, however, Ms. Ellis has wanted to come back to Takoma Park. According to City Administrator Jim Wilson, the City is glad she has: "Ms. Ellis' extensive background and experience in recreation and related fields—especially her work with volunteers, youth, and senior citizens—will be quite useful to the City and its citizens in the years ahead."

Channel 54's New Year's Party

photos by Wayne Drees



Two New Year's Eve celebrants at Channel 54's Party.

It was probably inevitable, if only because the City staff had new desk calendars, but on December 31, 1990, for the first time, the City celebrated the New Year in the Municipal Building. At midnight, the second floor was roaring, confetti, flashing, dancing, and embracing in 1991. Councilmember Greg Hamilton spun the disks as Channel 54's New Year's Eve party with nearly 200 guests was broadcast live.

"There were people here," said Karen Mitchell, the party's coordinator, "who said 'I wasn't going to come until I turned it on and saw what a good time you were having.'" All of the work for the party was done by the community volunteers at Cable 54. A. J. Mitchell did the interviews, Mary Jacobs prepared the food, Denise Jacobs worked the switchers, and volunteers in high heels ran the cameras. For five hours, city hall boogied. "The most important thing to us," said Karen Mitchell, "was

Reading Club at Natural Reflections

by Arna Lane

Tucked away in a hard-to-find corner on the first floor of the Takoma Metro Building—directly behind Arise—Natural Reflections is a children's booklover's haven. The 400-plus titles that line the walls contain tales by and about people of color, particularly African Americans, Latin Americans, and Native Americans.

that this was family oriented. There were people here who wouldn't have gone out anywhere if this hadn't happened. "Will they do it again? "Oh, definitely," said Mitchell.

For those who missed this year's party—or missed seeing themselves on television—the show will be rebroadcast January 26 and 27 at 6 p.m.

"No one can tell your story like you can," said owner Rabiah Al Nur. "It is important that children, particularly African American children and children of other ethnic groups be exposed to and possess books that have positive images of them."

To emphasize this point and to honor Martin Luther King's birthday, Natural Reflections will launch a reading club for children ages six to 12. The children will read four paperback books to be selected by the group over the next few months. Later in January, local storyteller and author Jamal Koran will visit the store and talk to club readers.

"Reading [in the community] is not a priority anymore. Certainly parents and educators have more serious concerns such as drugs and violence, but we," said Al Nur, "must move reading closer to the top of the list."

"Regrets? Hell, No. It Doesn't Bother Me At that I Don't Have a Suburban Decorum."

*Sammie Abbott,
born 4/25/08 in
Ithaca, NY, died
12/15/90 in
Takoma Park, MD*

Sammie Abbott had more friends than enemies and more of each than anybody else I know. He loved his wife, to whom he was married for 53 years, his children, grandchildren, and cats. He hated all that is wrong with the world. He said of himself, "I'm a perpetually mad person. I hate injustice. I'm living to fight the goddamned thing. I'm too mad to sleep."

Sam taught that political theory focused on the long term and abstract—world peace, participatory democracy and justice for all—he also taught that political action had to be immediate, inclusive, and decisive. Make your position clear and simple. Know who your allies are and support them. Know who your enemies are and discredit them. Be clever. Be persistent. Be relentless. Trust your instincts before experts. Fight to win. Attack. Attack. Attack.

He knew what he wanted. He knew how to go about getting it. He was not deterred by fear or failure. After losing re-election by seven votes to a fourth term as Takoma Park's mayor in 1985, he went on, at age 77, to become the founding chair of the Montgomery County Rainbow Coalition. At 80, he got himself arrested with eight other citizens during H.O.M.E.'s protest against the mayor and city council's failure to decisively defend tenants who were being ousted from their apartments. It did not matter to Sam that some people would condemn his tactics or oppose his goals, that he might be arrested or defamed or dismissed as irrelevant or "too old"—all of which, in fact, happened. It did not matter to Sam that he would neither be paid nor praised nor thanked.

He supported the dreamers, the artists, the gadflies, the neglected, the disregarded because he believed they were each in their own way contributing to the creation of a better world.

He hated mumblers, those who put style over substance, the self-interested, the self-important. He respected power, but had no regard for those who exercised their power without regard for its effect on people.

He believed "citizen" was a more honorable title than "mayor." He disdained the backroom and deal making, dependence on studies and reports, which

he said too often led to paralysis by analysis, and restraints on free expression. When a former mayor of Takoma Park insisted that speakers be limited to three minutes each, Sam decreed that move as "democracy by egg timer."

During his first campaign for mayor in 1978 (which he lost by eight votes), he promised to throw away the mayor's gavel. When he was elected in 1980, he did. Two weeks later, he may have regretted it when he had to shout at me to pipe down after I heckled the mayor and council during their debate. After that, I heard him argue with hundreds of citizens during his five and one-half years as mayor. He would, in no uncertain terms, tell scores of them they were wrong and how so, but I never heard him tell anyone they couldn't have the floor, make a point, or ask a question—no matter how much he disagreed with them.

"I deal with people as individuals. We won't be unanimous on things, but that's okay. When everybody is unanimous, it's time to get worried," he said.

Frederick Douglass said that those who love freedom while deprecating agitation were like those who would have the ocean without the terrible roar of its waves. So too are those who would praise Sam Abbott because he was feisty (a term he despised), lived a long life, was a character, and fought for what he believed in while deprecating his tactics, his attitudes and even his goals. Anyone who knew Sam knows, you can't have one without the other.

—Tom Gagliardo

In the mid-1970s, I was putting together a coalition of community organizations in Takoma Park and Silver Spring. One of our ad hoc groups was C.R.I.S.I.S., Committee to Renovate our Integrated School Immediately If not Sooner, which was trying to keep the Montgomery County schoolboard from shutting down Takoma Elementary because of a new racial imbalance policy that made any school with over 50% minority enrollment vulnerable.

The evening came for our big showdown with the schoolboard. Our phone tree had done a good job and about 200 of our people were in the audience. Our goal was simple and clear—we wanted only five minutes of the schoolboard's time to present our case. The schoolboard denied it. We protested. And the schoolboard walked out.

The crowd got quiet. We had no contingency plan. Then...Sam walked up to the board chairman's seat. He turned around and, in that raspy voice of his, started talking about justice. I looked at Princess Chapman, one of the group's leaders, she looked at me, and then she rose and went up next to Sam. Soon everyone was moving. For the next two hours, 200 Takoma Park people stood on stage and lectured the 100 others left in the audience. Sam did a real good part of the talking.

The schoolboard called the police. We called the press. The police threatened to arrest us, and we

refused to move. The late Congresswoman Gladys Spellman arrived and eventually led the schoolboard back into the room, and we got our five minutes.

We never did get the old Takoma Elementary renovated...but we did get a new Takoma Elementary School built.

—Rino Aldrighetti

Sammie was called many things, often under the catchall "colorful." He called himself "angry," but he was living proof that a dead serious mission requires an incredible sense of humor. His anger kept him fighting injustice all of his life and his humor kept him sane. "Colorful" doesn't begin to describe Sammie.

—Rosemarie Dillingham

Sammie A. Abbott was an iconoclast. He would break what he felt wasn't working and work at fixing it, no matter what it was. As an artist he knew the value of signs and symbols. As a politician he knew how to use them to influence public policy. Sam was a master at establishing issue limits. He had little patience with the mechanics of "how-to." His interest was "what" and "when." He would object strenuously to being called a do-gooder. But he did do good for people, for groups of people, for individuals who were on the short end of the stick, any stick.

There was one thing he always did consistently. Fight. Fight what he believed was abuse of power, no matter who had it—the government (all levels), the business/economic community, you name it. Some say, including himself, that anger motivated him. I don't think so. I believe that it was principle...the principle of justice.

—James Wilson, City Administrator

The current direction of the Takoma Park Police Department was really set by Sam Abbott, who believed that every person with a problem deserved a hearing. As Mayor, he made sure I gave everybody a hearing, but never did he interfere, once a decision was made. I am personally grateful to him for pointing us in the direction we should go.

I will never forget how Mayor Abbott would come out to the scene of any significant incident—a fire, a shooting or a flood—and would offer whatever he personally could do to help the people

photos by Wayne Boone

All



and families involved. It was heartwarming to have him there with us, even though this was only a small part of his lifetime work to alleviate human suffering.

—Police Chief Tony Fisher

No other mayor, before or since, has had more impact and accomplished more dramatic change in recent memory than Sam Abbott. Whether mayor or citizen—it didn't matter—Sam spoke his mind, kept to his principles in what he knew and what he reminded us all everyday....

He once wrote about some of the specific things he wanted to accomplish as mayor, "I think it's the new spirit of Takoma Park that is the most important goal to pursue. We're finally making progress here. We're building a real, solid, active, and involved community, in the shadow of the nation's Capital. That is living proof that democratic government works—a government centering not on elected officials, but on the PEOPLE. That's what I want—to continue on the course of citizen involvement." I'd like to think that we can grasp that spirit again in Takoma Park.

—Lynne Bradley

Sammie, at 80 years of age, you put most other people to shame. Standing in a courtroom after being arrested for trying to save affordable housing for tenants in multi-family houses, for trying to save the heart of Takoma Park, always able to perceive clearly what was right, you were the conscience of Takoma Park.

At 80, when you were arrested for the last time in the H.O.M.E. demonstration in the City Council

chambers in 1988 and you went to court, the charges were dropped. When the judge asked if any of the defendants had anything to say, you were the only one to speak. You stated with conviction, "I did it. I'm proud of it, and I would do it again." Everyone in the courtroom started cheering. Those words are a wonderful description of your entire life. You did it right. We are all very proud of you, Sammie.

—Kay Dellinger

The fondest memory I have of Sammie Abbott was of one Fourth of July parade when he invited our daughter Risa to ride with him and his grandson Nathaniel in the front of the parade.

I drove them to the Municipal Center where they were to board the shiny antique car that would lead the parade. Sammie wanted me to drop them off in the street, three blocks away, but I knew they were VIPs and drove right up to the patrolman who first glowered and then seeing Sammie said, "Oh, good morning, Mr. Mayor. I hope you enjoy the parade!" Sammie grumbled something about this being a good way to go. He was humble that morning in a way that surprised me. When he was away from the politicians and with children, Sammie revealed a part of himself which few people got to see. I'll always carry a cherished memory in my heart of those three happy kids riding in that big shiny car—Risa, Nathaniel, and wide-grinning Sammie.

—Susan Stevens

Sammie was a founding member of the Montgomery County chapter of the Rainbow Coalition and was instrumental in assisting the state to get its charter from the national Rainbow.

One of the fun things for me, being a newcomer to all of this, was watching the way Sammie would make some of the politicians squirm by playing good cop/bad cop. Sammie was an excellent foil.... We went into this one meeting in Rockville where the group already knew Sammie, but not me. More often than not, Sammie had worn these guys down, but this time we only wanted to let it be known we were representing a constituency in this county. This particular club did not believe that there was poverty and unemployment in this county, nor that there was any issue of affordable housing. I got loud, did the slamming of my fist on the table and told this one fellow to cast his wealth aside and seek a new start in El Salvador. In the delegate race that year, Sammie and I came in 9th and 10th out of a field of 77 delegates where only the top 8 won seats to the convention....

Sammie never gave up hope. He was like the tree that's standing by the water. We shall not be moved.

—Daryl Stevens

Sam put art and ecology together. He was a recycler before the rest of us. I remember how much pleasure he took in showing me the various treasures he had rescued from D.C. curbsides—statuary and gargoyles that found a new home in the beautiful terraced garden in the Abbott's house on Birch Street. He obviously got much joy from being a scavenger, and he correctly took my teasing as the highest compliment.

—Joan Jacobs (Prosten)

I met Sam in 1977, when the tenants at Winchester Apartments were fighting for better living conditions. We had rats and roaches. We did not have heat and hot water. Sam led the fight at City Hall. Week after week, year after year, Sam never lost strength or vigor fighting for the rights of others. To know Sam is to know you are going to fight for someone's rights.

—Herman Williams

Sometime during the mid-70's at a Planning Board hearing—Royce Hanson chaired the board at the

time—Sammie heatedly disputed traffic count figures developed by Park and Planning staff which "clearly supported" the "necessity" for widening Philadelphia Avenue. Oh, it was masterful as Sammie deftly refuted the published figures with correct, specific traffic count figures which were about 2/3 less than those claimed by the staff. The discussion was suddenly in complete disarray, and the issue was tabled until further studies could be undertaken.

On the way home, I asked him, "How in the world did you know such obscure statistics as those?" Sammie sheepishly replied, "Hell, Bob, I don't know what the damn figures are, but I had to say something!"

—Robert H. Moore

Sam liked and appreciated simple things, and he also liked to help people. Once in the fall, he knocked on our door to say he had six "extra" dogwoods and wouldn't we like them in the yard. Phil and I explained we had too many things to do to get them planted. So, Sam said he would plant the trees himself, and he did, digging extra large holes and putting in good stuff. All the trees lived, naturally, and many's the spring I have stolen a look at "my" old backyard on Maple Avenue, to see the 20-foot tall white lacy hedge that Sam created.

—Barbara Young

WHEREAS, on December 15, 1990,

former Mayor Sammie Abbott departed this life; AND WHEREAS, Sammie Abdullah Abbott contributed to the political life of Takoma Park and the Greater Washington community for more than four decades; AND

WHEREAS, Sam Abbott's struggles for social justice grew to legendary proportions in the Washington area; AND

WHEREAS, these struggles in the late 1960's included organizing and leading the successful fight against the North Central Freeway, a fight that saved hundreds of homes in Takoma Park (and thousands more in adjacent communities) and maintained our identity as a community; AND

WHEREAS, these struggles in the early 1970's included the fight to save Block 69 (Takoma Avenue) and its lovely Queen Anne homes, a fight that included Sam's arrest as he sat beside other Takoma Park residents in front of the wrecking ball, a fight in which he and his neighbors were opposed by Takoma Park's government; AND

WHEREAS, these struggles in the late 1970's included the successful fight to keep Takoma Junior High School open; AND

WHEREAS, in 1980 Sam Abbott was elected Mayor of Takoma Park, a position he used to increase citizen communication and participation and in which he served until 1985; AND

WHEREAS, as Mayor, Sam Abbott created the City Newsletter's tabloid format, promoted tenant's rights and protection, expanded this City's peace and justice agenda, supported the growth of the Takoma Park Folk Festival and in many other ways did his level best to make Takoma Park a better place for all its citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT on behalf of the citizens of Takoma Park, the City Council expresses our deeply felt loss at the death of this worthwhile man, Sam Abbott on December 15, 1990 and our great appreciation for his many years of contributions to the City of Takoma Park; AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the City Administrator is hereby instructed to lower the Municipal Building's United States flag, the Maryland State flag and the City of Takoma Park flag and have them all flown at half-mast from December 18, 1990 to January 6, 1991; AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That the City Clerk is hereby instructed to spread this Resolution among the permanent records of this City.

Takoma Park's Resolution #1990-117

Derek Berlage sponsored a resolution that was adopted by the Montgomery County Council proclaiming January 5th, Sammie Abbott Day.

The memorial service for Sammie A. Abbott, held at the Washington Ethical Society on January 5, will be broadcast on February 7 at 8 p.m. on Channel 54.

CHANNEL 54

The Green Show Video Contest

"The Green Show," Channel 54's environmental call-in, will sponsor an environmental video contest. Participants should prepare a 1-3 minute video on any environmental issue and send the video, by 5 p.m., March 1, 1991, to Natalie Roy, Takoma Park Department of Public Works, 31 Oswego Ave., Takoma Park, MD 20912. The video can be educational or wacky.

There will be several awards categories, and winners will be selected by an impartial Green Show Selection Committee.

Each winning entry will be aired on "The Green Show" and the producers of the videos will each receive a certificate from the judges.

Bruce Moyer Award

Channel 54 recently awarded the producers of "Haiti: A Suiyre" and "Bicultural Center for the Deaf" with the Bruce Moyer Award for excellence. This award is given annually to those people involved with Channel 54 who see an idea through that proves invaluable to the community.

Takoma Park Community Television—Channel 54
 Mondays—4 to 8 p.m., municipal programming, 8 p.m., Council meetings
 Tuesdays—4 to 10 p.m., municipal programming
 Wednesdays—4 to 10 p.m., community programming, 7-8 p.m., "Takoma Tempo" 8-8:30 p.m., "Haiti: A Suiyre"
 Thursdays—4 to 8 p.m., municipal programming, 7:30 p.m., "Green Show" 8 p.m., Council meetings repeated from live Monday broadcasts
 Friday—4-10 p.m., community programming
 Saturdays—12-12:30 p.m., "Haiti: A Suiyre" 12:30-1 p.m., "Dolly Davis Show" 4-4:30 p.m., "Haiti: A Suiyre" 4:30-5 p.m., "Dolly Davis Show" 8-8:30 p.m., "Haiti: A Suiyre"
 Sundays—12-12:30 p.m., "Haiti: A Suiyre" 12:30-1 p.m., "Dolly Davis Show" 4-

4:30 p.m., "Haiti: A Suiyre" 4:30-5 p.m., "Dolly Davis Show" 7-7:30 p.m., "Haiti: A Suiyre" 8-8:30 p.m., "Dolly Davis Show"

Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration Celebration, January 21, 1991, 7:00 p.m. (shown live)

New Years Eve Countdown (re-broadcast) 26 & 27 January, 6:00 p.m.

Sammie Abbott Memorial, February 7, 8 p.m. (2 hrs.)

Check the Takoma Park Community Television Video Bulletin Board for complete programming information.

"The Dolly Davis Show," with Dolly Davis is a local talk/interview program.

"The Green Show," with Natalie Roy, is an environmental call-in program.

"Haiti: A Suiyre," with Jean Vicens, is a musical entertainment showcase.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

In Town

Minifestival at Takoma Intermediate

The Folklore Society of greater Washington will host its annual Minifestival at Takoma Park Intermediate School on February 2. There will be dozens of daytime events and contests as well as an evening dance and concert. The emphasis of the Minifest is audience participation.

Musicians, crafters, and storytellers will not only offer short concerts and demonstrations, but they will encourage the audience to join them.

Admission is \$8 for members/\$10 for non-members. Separate admission is required for the evening events, and family discounts are available.

Fifth Issue of *Minimus* Ready

A number of area writers have put together the 5th issue of *Minimus*, the only active literary magazine that emphasizes Takoma Park writers. The Winter 1990-91 issue features the writings of Ed Berlinski, Terence Mulligan, Phyllis Alden, Pete Covitz, and Tracy McDonnell.

Begun as an after-hours hobby by the publishers, *Minimus* has prided itself on publishing obscure and little known poets and storytellers from the community. Copies of the magazine are available at Chuck & Dave's Bookstore or by writing to Atmosphere Productions, P.O. Box 69, College Park, MD 20740.

Takoma Park Symphony

On February 3, at 4 p.m., the Takoma Park Symphony Orchestra presents "Sepia Sounds, Symphonic Structure." This performance will include Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue," Baker's "Concerto for Saxophone," and Dawson's "Negro Folk Symphony." The concert will be held at Blair High School. Tickets are \$8 and \$6 at door. Call 585-4221 for further information.

Takoma Repertory

The Takoma Repertory is looking for people who would like to work in all aspects of production: set building, stage crew, PR, costuming, etc. If interested, call Laura Wilson at 593-0338.

Exhibit at Dempsey Gallery

Beginning January 12, the Richard Dempsey Memorial Municipal Gallery in the Municipal Building at 7500 Maple Avenue will be showing the alkyl/oil works of Anasus H. This exhibit, entitled "Urban Flight," will run through the end of January.

Around Town

Long Branch Library Programs

On January 26, at 11 a.m., the library will show "Shrinking of Trehorn" and "Freckle Juice" for children aged 5 and up. For information, call 565-7410.

TAKOMA PAST

Property Taxes, Rabbit Ears and Hippies

by Ellen Marsh

"My memories only go back to 1963, when my husband and I moved here with our two babies. But I can remember when the municipal payroll consisted primarily of one city administrator, one housing inspector, one town clerk, a few police officers, a secretary, and Belle Ziegler. City Hall was at 8 Columbia Avenue, and there was plenty of room in it.

"I can remember when Takoma Park was conservative. The Seventh-Day Adventists set the tone. I can remember when our city taxes were less than \$200 a year.

"I can remember when only two lawyers made their home here. Eventually a third moved to Takoma Park in the early 1970s—he had very nice, shoulder-length hair.

"By the mid-1960s, the Appalachian poor in the rental units were being replaced by counter-culture

types. My husband was amused by a conversation he overheard in a store in White Oak at that time. One extremely scruffy young man was telling another, 'If you're looking for a pad, why don't you move to Takoma Park, where I live! S—man, that's where it's at!'

"I can remember the macrobiotic restaurant on Carroll Avenue near Philadelphia. A sign above the door promised a grand opening that never actually occurred. One of the largest illegal drug manufacturers on the East Coast was operating out of that building, a city official told me. The big plush bunny that adorned the window signified by the position of its ears when drugs were available.

"Ah...the good old days."

"Takoma Past" gives current and former residents of Takoma Park a place to put their memories about things and people who were once a part of our city.

D.C. Youth Orchestra

On February 9, 10 a.m. to noon, the D.C. Youth Orchestra will host an open house at College High School for potential program enrollees and anyone interested. Refreshments will be served. Call 202-723-1612 for further information.

Writer's Center's Birthday

On January 26, at 8 p.m., the Writer's Center in Bethesda will celebrate its 15th year with a reading by American Poet Laureate Mark Strand. Strand will be reading from his *The Continuous Life*. Admission is \$5; reservations required. For further information, call 654-8664.

Parenting Classes

The Child Center, Inc., of Montgomery College in Rockville will be presenting courses in effective parenting. An early childhood class will be held Jan. 17 through March 7, 6:30 - 8 p.m. The class for parents of

elementary school aged children will be Saturdays, January 26 through March 23, 9:30 - 11 a.m. Registration is required, and each course cost \$71, including materials. Call Debra Feiner Child for further information, 279-5866.

Food & Friends Orientation

Food & Friends, a non-profit organization which provides meals to homebound AIDS victims, will be holding a volunteer orientation on January 17, from 7 to 9 p.m., at the Westminster Presbyterian Church at 400 I Street, N.W., Wash. Call 202-488-8278 for further information.

Musical Recital of Izalco

On January 25, at 9 p.m., the Centro de Arte will present a group Izalco in concert at La Pena, 15th and Irving St., N.W., Wash. Izalco is an El Salvadorian group of folk singers who are currently touring the U.S. Cost is \$7. For reservations, call 202-483-5825.

Local School Announcements

Elementary Schools	January 21, closed
Carole Highlands Elementary, 434-7400	February 15, principal retreat
Jan. 21, closed	Takoma Elementary, 650-6414
Jan. 28, half day	Jan. 21, closed
Feb. 13, half day	Jan. 28, closed
John Nevins Andrews Elementary, 270-1400	Feb. 6, report cards
Jan. 21, closed	Secondary Schools
Our Lady of Sorrows Elementary, 891-2555	Blair High School, 650-6600
Jan. 21, closed	Jan. 21, closed
Piney Branch Elementary, 891-8000	Jan. 28, closed
Jan. 21, closed	Feb. 6, report cards
Jan. 28, closed	Nicholas Orem Middle School, 559-7181
Feb. 6, report cards	Jan. 21, closed
Ridgecrest Elementary, 559-0880	Jan. 28, half day
Jan. 21, closed	Feb. 13, half day
Jan. 28, half day	Takoma Academy 434-4700
Feb. 13, half day	Jan. 21, closed
Sligo Adventist Elementary, 434-1417	Takoma Intermediate, 650-6444
	Jan. 21, closed
	Jan. 28, closed

CITY COUNCIL

A Special Session of the Council was called on December 17, 1990

Upon motion by Councilmember Hamilton, duly seconded by Councilmember Douglas, the Council convened into Special Session at 8:29 p.m. to take up the following matters.

COLTA Appointments. Resolution #1990-115 was unanimously passed, appointing the following persons to serve on the Commission on Landlord and Tenant Affairs: Deborah Carr (term expires 6/30/91); Claudette Thompson (term expires 6/30/92); and Wanda Moore (term expires 6/30/93).
Acknowledgement of Roscoe Nix.

Resolution #1990-116 was unanimously passed, acknowledging Montgomery County Chapter NAACP President Roscoe Nix, who is retiring as President after 10 years. The Resolution will be forwarded to the NAACP for presentation at a ceremony honoring Mr. Nix in January, 1991.

Resolution of Condolence for Sammie Abbott. Resolution #1990-117 was unanimously passed, acknowledging the many civic accomplishments of former Mayor Sammie Abbott and expressing sympathy to the Abbott family. The Resolution also mandates that the Municipal Building flags will be flown at half-mast until January 6, 1991.
—submitted by City Clerk

Tentative Council Agenda

The following is a tentative Council agenda for January 21-February 11, 1991. Items are subject to change. Please call the administrative office, 270-1700, for meeting times and verification of agenda.

January 21, 1991, Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday observed—city offices closed.
Tuesday, January 22, 1991, Council Worksession
—Discussion of City Administrator's Recommendations on the Recycling Task Force Recycling Report
—Discussion of City Administrator's Report of Cable Recommendations
—Discussion of Resolution Adopting

NFZ Top Weapons Producers List
—Discussion of City Clerk's Proposal
Re: City's Minutes
Monday, January 28, 1991, regular Council meeting
—Resolutions of Appreciation for Norman Gleichman and James S. Arisman
—Appointment of Councilmember to Ward 7 seat.
Tentative February worksession items:
—Discussion and Review of Farmers Market Guidelines
Monday, February 4, 1991, Council Worksession
—Discussion and Review of Second Draft of Article 7

RECREATION

Register Now for Winter Classes

The Takoma Park Recreation Dept. is offering a variety of classes this winter. Classes are offered on a first-come, first-served basis, and pre-registration is required. Most classes begin the first week of February, except where noted.

Aerobics (High Impact)—Mon. & Thurs., 7:40-8:40 p.m., Takoma Interm. School. \$42/12 wks. begins Feb. 4.

Aerobics (Low Impact)—Sat. 9-10 a.m., Takoma Interm. School, \$36/12 wks. begins Feb. 2.

Art (Oils & Acrylics)—Thurs. 7:30-9:30 p.m., Municipal Bldg., \$30/10 wks., begins Jan. 31.

Quilting (Intermediate)—Tues. 7:30-9:30 p.m., Municipal Bldg., \$28/8 wks. plus materials, begins Feb. 5.

Slimnastics—Mon. & Thurs. 6:30-7:30 p.m., Takoma Interm. School, \$42/12 wks. begins Feb. 4.

Yoga (Beginning)—Mon. 7-8:30 p.m., Takoma Interm. School, \$42/12

wks. begins Feb. 4.

Yoga (Advanced)—Wed. 7-8:30 p.m., Takoma Interm. School, \$42/12 wks. begins Feb. 6.

For further information, call the recreation department, 270-4048.

Ski Roundtop Trips

Takoma Park Recreation Department and the Hyattsville Department of Parks and Recreation are co-sponsoring two ski trips to Ski Roundtop, Lewisberry, PA, on Saturday, Feb. 2 and Sunday, Feb. 17, from 1 p.m. to approximately 12:30 a.m. The trips are limited to teens and adults.

The cost is \$37 per person, per trip, and includes ski rental, lift ticket, and transportation. Ski lessons are \$15 extra.

Deadline for registration is Friday, January 25 for the Feb. 2nd trip, and Friday, February 8 for the February 17th ski trip. For further information, call the recreation department, 270-4048.

also sponsored two mixed paper recycling drives collecting hard-to-dispose of telephone books, magazines, and junk mail.

During the year, the City collected over 742 tons of newspaper, 460 tons of glass, aluminum cans, and tin and metal containers, 18 tons of corrugated

COMMUNITY & HOUSING

Housing Inspections for February

The following property is scheduled for rental housing inspections during the month of February: 7600 Maple Avenue.

The property owner is responsible for being present at the time of the inspection. If an owner is unable to attend, then the owner must appoint someone to be present and represent him/her during the inspection.

Access must be supplied to all dwelling units and common areas during this inspection. All smoke detectors must be operational at the time of this inspection.

—submitted by Darlene Morning

Snow Removal

The Department of Housing and Community Development requests all property owners to remove all snow

and ice from their sidewalks. Section 11-36 of the Takoma Park Code requires all sidewalks to be kept free of ice and snow. Violators are subject to municipal infraction citations which carry penalties of \$75.00 to \$150.00 per day. Additional information regarding snow removal laws is available from the Department of Housing and Community Development. Please call 270-5900.

COLTA Business

The Commission on Landlord and Tenant Affairs Business Meeting will be February 7, 1991, at 7:30 p.m. in the Conference Room.

On January 4, 1991, COLTA issued a decision granting rent increases above the rent stabilization level for 8324 Roanoke Avenue.

On January 17, a COLTA hearing is scheduled for a petitioned rent increase above the rent stabilization ceiling for 236 Manor Circle.

LIBRARY

Kenyatta's Afro Tales Commemorate Black History Month

"I went and I saw for you! See so we may see!"

With this ancient introduction, nationally known storyteller Jamal Koram begins a performance which combines African American tradition, African folklore, written and oral history, personal experience and music in a unique and invigorating blend.

Mr. Koram, who will perform at the Library on Wednesday, February 20, at 7:30 p.m. in a special program for adults and children, has focused on storytelling to audiences of all ages for the past 12 years. His stories span the diaspora, and include Anansi tales, Br'er Rabbit tales, Lion tales, and other stories and songs from ancient and contemporary events and personalities. Preregistration is requested for this free show. Call 270-1717.

Designing Women Art Show

"Designing Women," a group show featuring the talents of several area commercial illustrators and graphic designers, including Carole Lowry, Chris Jeffries Whatmore, Helen Burling

cardboard, 30 tons of scrap metal, and approximately 150 tons of leaf and yard waste.

The City has received much praise for being an innovative recycler and has been featured in numerous newspapers and on CBS Television News and the Discovery Channel. The City has been awarded for excellence, by the Maryland Municipal League and by Prince George's Citizens for a Cleaner County, for its recycling program.

—Natalie Roy
Public Works

Ottaway, and Johanna Vogelsang, will be on display in the Library during February.

Children's Programs in January and February

TWOS (Registration required; group size limited)

January 9 & 23, February 6 & 20
Group A: 10:00-10:30 a.m., Group B: 10:45-11:15 a.m.

PRESCHOOL STORYHOUR FOR DAYCARE GROUPS
(Pre-registration required)

Tuesday, February 5
Group A: 10:00-10:30 a.m., Group B: 10:45-11:15 a.m.

PRESCHOOL STORYHOUR FOR INDIVIDUALS (ages 3-5)

Tuesday, January 22, February 19, 10:00-10:30 a.m.

BEDTIME STORYHOUR (ages 3-6 & families)

Monday, February 11, 7:00-7:45 p.m.
YOUNG READERS (school-age children)

Monday, February 4, 4:00-4:45 p.m.
Fear of Science Fair Projects: A workshop for children and parents

Wednesday, January 23, 7:00 p.m.
Please pre-register for all programs; call 270-1717.

Phonebooks, Magazines and Junk Mail Wanted

The City has scheduled another mixed paper collection drive of phonebooks, magazines and junk mail for Saturday and Sunday, February 2 and 3, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The collection box will be located in front of the Municipal Building at 7500 Maple Ave. Junk mail should be placed in brown bags. The vendor who accepts this material can not accept plastic bags at his paper mill.

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Continued from page 1

and soda containers. Containers to collect used anti-freeze were placed at the Public Works yard next to the used oil bins in November. Takoma Park

Dates to Remember . . .

Mon., Jan. 21	HOLIDAY, City Offices, Library, Public Works Closed.
Mon., Jan. 21	Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration, Municipal Building, 7:00 pm.
Tues., Jan. 22	Council work session, Municipal Building, 7:30 pm.
Wed., Jan. 23	American Society for Public Administration Meeting, Municipal Building, 6:30 pm.
Wed., Jan. 23	House and Garden Tour Committee Meeting, Municipal Building, 7:30 pm.
Fri., Jan. 25	Registration deadline for Feb. 2 ski trip to Ski Roundtop.
Mon., Jan. 28	City Council Meeting, Municipal Building, 8:00 pm.
Mon., Jan. 28	Recreation Council Meeting, Municipal Building, 8:00 pm.
Thurs., Jan. 31	Art classes begin, Municipal Building, 7:30-9:30 pm. (Pre-registration required)
Sat., Feb. 2	Aerobics classes begin (low impact), Takoma Park Intermediate School, 9:00-10:00 am. (Pre-registration required)
Mon., Feb. 4	Council work session, Municipal Building, 7:30 pm.
Mon., Feb. 4	Aerobics classes begin (high impact), Takoma Park Intermediate School, 7:40-8:40 pm. (Pre-registration required)
Mon., Feb. 4	Slimnastics classes begin, Takoma Park Intermediate School, 6:30-7:30 pm. (Pre-registration required)
Mon., Feb. 4	Yoga classes start (beginning level), Takoma Park Intermediate School, 7:00-8:30 pm. (Pre-registration required)
Tues., Feb. 5	Quilting classes begin (intermediate level), Municipal Building, 7:30-9:30 pm. (Pre-registration required)
Wed., Feb. 6	Yoga classes begin (advanced level), Takoma Park Intermediate School, 7:00-8:30 pm. (Pre-registration required)
Thurs., Feb. 7	COLTA Meeting, Municipal Building, 7:30 pm.
Thurs., Feb. 7	Isaac Walton League Board Meeting, Municipal Building, 7:30 pm.
Fri., Feb. 8	Registration deadline for Feb. 17 ski trip to Ski Roundtop.
Sat., Feb. 9	Women's Club Card Party, Municipal Building, 10:00 am.
Mon., Feb. 11	City Council Meeting, Municipal Building, 8:00 pm.
Tues., Feb. 12	Takoma Park Independence Day Committee Meeting, Municipal Building, 8:00 pm.

Fechas a Tener en Cuenta...

Lun., 21 de en.	DIA FESTIVO, Oficinas de la Ciudad, la Biblioteca, y Obras Publicas: cerradas.
Lun., 21 de en.	Conmemoracion del Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Edificio Municipal, 19.00 horas.
Mar., 22 de en.	Seccion de trabajo del Cabildo, Edificio Municipal, 19.30 horas.
Mier., 23 de en.	Reunion de la Sociedad Americana de Administracion Publica, Edificio Municipal, 18.30 horas.
Mier., 23 de en.	Reunion del Comite de la Excursion por Hogares y Jardines, Edificio Municipal, 19.30 horas.
Vier., 25 de en.	Ultimo dia para matricularse en el viaje de esquiar del 2 de febrero a Ski Roundtop.
Lun., 28 de en.	Reunion del Cabildo, Edificio Municipal, 20.00 horas.
Lun., 28 de en.	Reunion del Consejo del Recreo, Edificio Municipal, 20.00 horas.
Juev., 31 de en.	Principio de clases de arte, Edificio Municipal, 19.30 - 21.30 horas. (Matricula requerida).
Sab., 2 de feb.	Principio de clases de aerobismo (bajo impacto), Takoma Park Intermediate School, 9.00 - 10.00 horas. (Matricula requerida).
Lun., 4 de feb.	Seccion de trabajo del Cabildo, Edificio Municipal, 19.30 horas.
Lun., 4 de feb.	Principio de clases de aerobismo (alto impacto), Takoma Park Intermediate School, 19.40 - 20.40 horas. (Matricula requerida).
Lun., 4 de feb.	Principio de clases de "Slimnastics", Takoma Park Intermediate School, 18.30 - 19.30 horas. (Matricula requerida).
Lun., 4 de feb.	Principio de clases de yoga (curso elemental), Takoma Park Intermediate School, 19.00 - 20.30 horas.
Mar., 5 de feb.	Principio de clases de colchadura (nivel medio), Edificio Municipal, 19.30 - 21.30 horas. (Matricula requerida).
Mier., 6 de feb.	Principio de clases de yoga (nivel avanzado), Takoma Park Intermediate School, 19.00 - 20.30 horas. (Matricula requerida).
Juev., 7 de feb.	Reunion del Consejo de Asuntos de Caseros e Inquilinos, Edificio Municipal, 19.30 horas.
Juev., 7 de feb.	Reunion de Directores de la Liga Isaac Walton, Edificio Municipal, 19.30 horas.
Vier., 8 de feb.	Ultimo dia para matricularse en el viaje de esquiar del 17 de febrero a Ski Roundtop.
Sab., 9 de feb.	Fiesta de naipes del Club de Mujeres, Edificio Municipal, 20.00 horas.
Lun., 11 de feb.	Reunion del Cabildo, Edificio Municipal, 20.00 horas.
Mar., 12 de feb.	Reunion del Comite Takomaparqueano del Dia de la Independencia, Edificio Municipal, 20.00 horas.

Martin Luther King Tribute

The City of Takoma Park, Maryland, and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration Committee will present a tribute to Dr. King on Monday, January 21 at 7 p.m. in the Municipal Building Council Chambers. The services will be broadcast live on Channel 54. Refreshments will be served following ceremony.



New Crime Line is in Place

As of January 1st, residents can call a special telephone line—270-0031—for recorded information about crime in Takoma Park, new crime prevention

tips and special police announcements. Community Services Supervisor Kathleen Coursey hopes that after listening to the bulletin, people will call with additional information about the reported events. She said the recording will be updated each Friday afternoon.

Takoma Park Newsletter

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The *Takoma Park Newsletter* is the official monthly publication of the City of Takoma Park.

Extra Copies of the *Newsletter* are available at the Municipal Building and the City Library. If you were missed on home delivery, see map, left.

Submitted copy must be typed and double-spaced, or submitted on computer disk (5.25 in. disk, Wordperfect). Please deliver copy to Editor at the Municipal Building. For information concerning copy, photos, etc., phone her at 270-1700.

Letters To The Editor must be limited to 250 words. Please refer to article on *Newsletter* Guidelines (published in September 1990) for details of official policy.

Equal Access Policy: Section 7 of the City *Newsletter* Guidelines adopted by the Mayor & Council (25 July 1983) provides: "Controversial issues of City interest shall be handled in a balanced manner with equal access given to all sides."

If you wish to submit an article with an opposing viewpoint to those which have appeared in recent issues of the *Newsletter*, please submit double-spaced, typed copy to Editor, *Takoma Park Newsletter*, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, Md. 20912.

The editors of the paper reserve the right to edit all accepted manuscripts for length, clarity, style, spelling, and grammar.

Please Note: Material contained in the *Newsletter* represents the opinion of the authors and does not necessarily represent the views of the *Takoma Park Newsletter*, or the policy of the City of Takoma Park.



Newsletter Distribution Contact Persons: If you do not receive your monthly *Takoma Park Newsletter*, please consult the map and call the distribution person for your area.

Area I: call 270-4048, Area II: Mr. J. Bellino, ESOL Program, Montgomery

Blair H.S., 650-6634. Area III: Takoma Park Recreation Outreach, 270-4048. Area IV: see area #2, above. Area V: Mr. Harry Fulton, Takoma Park Boy Scouts, 588-8222.

The next issue of *The Newsletter* will be delivered February 15

Remember, the City will be Closed on January 21. Except for the police, there will be no Municipal Services on that day.

Illustrations

Kirsten Carreno, 13, of Sligo Adventist School, drew the picture on this page.

Children who are interested in contributing drawings to *The Newsletter* should submit sketches done in black felt tip pen on unlined, white paper. All submitted drawings should include the artist's name, grade, and school.

To submit drawings, contact the editor of *The Newsletter* at 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912 or call her at 270-1700.

Deadline for the next issue of the Takoma Park Newsletter IS: Friday, February 1